



Department of State TELEGRAM

Exhibit

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ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ADS-00 CITE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00
NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 SY-05 SES-01 SPH-01 OCT-02
OPR-02 SMS-01 7073 W
-----123785 211228Z /10

C 211116Z JAN 80
FM AMCONSUL PESHAWAR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 584
INFO AMEMBASSY KABUL
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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E.O. 12065: GDS 1/20/86 (ARCHARD, U.S.) OR-M
TAGS: PINS, AF

SUBJECT: SECURITY SITUATION BETWEEN KABUL AND TORKHAM

1. (C) RECENT TRAVELLERS ON MAIN AFGHAN ROAD BETWEEN KABUL AND PAK BORDER AT TORKHAM REPORT A CONTINUING NUMBER OF INCIDENTS SPARKED BY INSURGENTS. THESE INCLUDE AMBUSHED CARS, ROAD BLOCKS FROM FELLED TREES, AND A PARTIALLY BLOWN BRIDGE OR CULVERT. JALALABAD WAS REPORTEDLY WITHOUT ELECTRICITY BETWEEN JAN. 16 AND 19 BECAUSE OF A SABOTAGED ELECTRICITY PYLON. MILITARY CHECKPOINTS ON THE ROAD SEEM TO HAVE BEEN INCREASED OVER PAST FEW DAYS. LATE AFTERNOON JAN. 17, FIRING FROM NEARBY ARTILLERY OR TANKS COULD BE HEARD IN JALALABAD.

2. (C) ALMOST DAILY, I TALK WITH PERSONS, INCLUDING MANY JOURNALISTS WHO HAVE JUST TRAVELLED FROM KABUL. MOST RECENTLY, [REDACTED] ARRIVED HERE JAN. 19 AFTER SPENDING TWO NIGHTS IN JALALABAD. HER OBSERVATIONS MAKE IT CLEAR THAT ANTI-GOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES HAVE CONTINUED IN AREA OVER LAST FEW DAYS.
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3. (C) ROAD BETWEEN SUROBI AND JALALABAD APPEARS MOST

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY [Signature]
FOI, EO or PA exemption: 1, 2, 3, 5
5/21/90
() RELEASE
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() DENY
() DELETE
() No response info.
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() DOWNGRADE TO () S or () C, OADR
TS authority to: OADR

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AFFECTED BY INCIDENTS. IN PAST TEN DAYS, TREES WERE
FELLED ACROSS ROAD ABOUT 1 1/2 HOUR EAST OF SUROBI AS
WELL AS JUST WEST OF JALALABAD. AT LEAST THREE CARS
HAVE BEEN AMBUSHED SEPARATELY INCLUDING ONE IN LAST
THREE OR FOUR DAYS. [REDACTED] JALALABAD
THAT DRIVER OF LAST VEHICLE HAD BEEN WARNED BY INSUR-
GENTS NOT TO VIOLATE CURB ON TRAFFIC THEY HAD IMPOSED.
WHEN HE DID, HE WAS KILLED. DAMAGED BRIDGE OR CULVERT
IS EAST OF SUROBI. APPARENTLY, [REDACTED] FORCES TRAFFIC
INTO ONE LAHN. OKINO. KMURNALISTS HAD REPORTED THIS
EARLIER. I ASSUME SABOTAGE IS QUITE RECENT. All B

4. (C) DISRUPTION OF ELECTRICITY IN JALALABAD IS
REPORTEDLY THIRD INSTANCE SINCE SOVIET'S CHRISTMAS
INVASION. RESIDENTS [REDACTED] POWER HAD
GONE OFF ON 16TH; IT HAD NOT BEEN RESTORED WHEN SHE
LEFT ON 19TH. I ASSUME THAT PYLONS AFFECTED ARE THOSE
WHICH PARALLEL MAIN ROAD FOR EIGHT MILES BETWEEN POWER
HOUSE TO WEST AND CITY. IF SO, ONE WOULD ASSUME THAT
CHORE OF GUARDING LINE WOULD ORDINARILY NOT BE TOO
ONEROUS. THAT INSURGENTS HAVE HIT LINE THRICE IN
THREE WEEKS THUS SUGGESTS EITHER INCREASED PROFICIENCY
AT SABOTAGE OR VERY SHODDY PERFORMANCE FROM TROOPS ON
GUARD.

5. (C) AT VILLAGE KAMA, INSURGENTS REPORTEDLY DES-
TROYED PRIVATE HOUSE OF NANGARHAR GOVERNOR ON JAN. 16.
JALALABAD RESIDENTS [REDACTED] GOVERNOR HAD
PLACE UNDER HEAVY GUARD AS SHOW OF FORCE AND ACTED AR-
ROGANTLY WITH LOCALS. COMMENT: KAMA, EAST OF
JALALABAD AND NORTH OF KABUL RIVER, IS TURF OF MOHAMAND
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TRIBE. MOHAMANDS HAVE BEEN ON WARPATH IN AREA FOR
MONTHS.

6. (C) TRAVELLERS REPORTED AS LATE AS JAN. 15 ENCOUN-
TERING AS FEW AS TWO CURSORY CHECKPOINTS BETWEEN KABUL
AND TORKHAM. ON THE 19TH, HOWEVER, [REDACTED]
TO PASS THROUGH FIVE BETWEEN JALALABAD AND SORGER. AT
EACH, CHECKING WAS THOROUGH.

7. ON JANUARY 17 [REDACTED] FIRING FROM
ARTILLERY OR TANKS WHICH SEEMED TO BE WITHIN THE JALALABAD

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CITY OR CANTONMENT LIMITS. HEAVY FIRING LASTED FROM 3:30 UNTIL 5:00 P.M. LOCAL RESIDENTS WERE BRAVED FOR AN INSURGENT ATTACK ABOUT WHICH THEY HAD BEEN WARNED, BUT WHICH NEVER CAME OFF. COMMENT: MY INFORMANT, AS AN ADULT KABULI, HAS LIVED THROUGH FOUR SUCCESSFUL COUPS, AND A PASSEL OF OTHER FIRE FIGHTS. I WOULD THUS ACCEPT THAT SHE KNOWS FIRE FROM HEAVY GUNS. I ASSUME IT WAS OUTGOING ARTILLERY. PERHAPS A COPY OF THE HARRASSMENT AND INTERDICTION FIRE WE USED AGAINST THE VIET CONG.
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